

REMARKS

The claims are claims 1, 3 and 9 to 13.

The Applicants respectfully submit that Figure 2 is correct as originally rendered. Figure 2 includes a label stating that the output of multiplier 215 is unsigned and that the output of data latch 240 is also unsigned. The Examiner has questioned this label because multiplier 215 receives one input receiving the most significant bits of the input, which are signed. This application states at page 6, lines 19 to 21:

"Note that whether a is negative or positive, the product is positive. Accordingly, the output of multiplier 215 is unsigned."

Thus Figure 2 has correctly labeled the output of multiplier 215 as unsigned.

Claims 1, 3 and 9 are amended. Claims 2 and 4 to 8 are canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled claims 2 and 4. Claim 3 is amended to depend upon claim 1 rather than canceled claim 2. Claim 3 is further amended to include grammatical corrections. Claim 9 is amended into independent form incorporating all the limitations of its previous base claim 1.

Claims 1 and 9 to 13 are allowable as indicated in paragraph 6 of page 4 of the OFFICE ACTION. Claim 3 is allowable by dependency upon allowable claim 1.

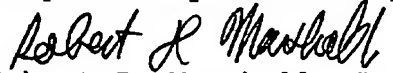
The Applicants respectfully submit that all the present claims are allowable for the reasons set forth above. Therefore early reconsideration and advance to issue are respectfully requested.

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If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the below listed telephone number and address to facilitate prosecution.

Texas Instruments Incorporated
P.O. Box 655474 M/S 3999
Dallas, Texas 75265
(972) 917-5290
Fax: (972) 917-4418

Respectfully submitted,


Robert D. Marshall, Jr.
Reg. No. 28,527